Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 /053 W

-----290319Z 012530 /61

R 281803Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9439 INFO AMEMBASSY BERN AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY PARIS AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAIR BE

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: US-BELGIUM CHARTER MOU

REF: STATE 65575, BRUSSELS 2663 (NOTAL)

1. VANDERPERREN IS UNALBE TO GIVE US A RESPONSE ON CONSULTATIONS UNTIL NEXT WEEK. HIS MINISTER IS PRESENTLY EXAMINING THE PROPOSAL. VANDERPERREN WILL BE UNAVAILABLE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE WEEK, HOWEVER, AND WILL HAVE TO PICK THE MATTER UP EARLY NEXT WEEK. HE SAYS HIS DEPARTMENT WILL TREAT THE CHARTER MOU AS "TECHNCICAL" MATTER, AND THEREFORE IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO CONDUCT CONSULTATIONS EVEN AFTER THE APRIL 17 PARLIMENTATY ELECTIONS. AS LONG AS THERE IS A COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER TO SIGN A LETTER, HE THINKS HE CAN GO AHEAD. HE INTEDNDS TO PROPOSE THAT CONSULTATIONS TAKE PLACE EITHER THE WEEK OF APRIL 18 OR APRIL 25. THE BELGIAN SIDE WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND SABENA.

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2. COMMENT: IT IS A LITTLE DISQUIETING TO LEARN THAT VANDERPERREN DID NOT INFORM COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER CHABERT OF HSI PROPOSAL BEFORE MAKING IT TO US. DESPITE VANDERPERREN'S OPTIMISM, THERE MAY STILL BE SOME DIFFICULTIES BEFORE THE BELGIANS CAN FOLLOW THROUGH.RENNER

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Message Attributes

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